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Prediction of a functional characteristic(s) and/or description of a physical characteristic(s) of structural features on a substrate is performed using a method where a combination of a weighting function(s) and a correlation function(s) is applied to feedback information from the structural feature. The combination of functions is preferably selected using a calibration database containing (A) information describing a functional performance characteristic of reference structural features, and/or (B) information describing a physical characteristic of reference structural features, and information describing feedback from the reference structural features as a function of position over such reference structural features.